

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01 IO-14 OMB-01 /128 W

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R 281330Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1412

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

DAMASCUS 006

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0828

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/PINT, LY

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE PROFITS QADHAFI

REF: TRIPOLI 788

1. PALESTINIAN REACTION TO SADAT-HUSSEIN COMMUNIQUE SEEMS TO US TO HAVE STRENGTHENED QADHAFI'S HAND, BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND IN HIS STRUGGLE WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. QADHAFI'S STOCK HAD REACHED LOW POINT WITH AGREEMENT ON SYRIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT, BUT POINT COMMUNIQUE HAS GIVEN IT A BOOST. BOTH AS A LEADING REJECTIONIST SPOKESMAN AND AS OPPONENT OF SADAT, QADHAFI HAS PROFITED FROM PRESENT PALESTINIAN-EGYPTIAN DIFFERENCES, AS HE WILL COMIINUE TO PROFIT FROM ANYTHING WHICH SLOWS MOMENTUM TOWARD A SETTLEMENT.

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2. QADHAFI HIMSELF SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN HEART FROM CRITICISM

OF SADAT, AND PERHAPS AS RESULT TO HAVE BECOME MORE VISIBLE THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE APRIL RCC DECREE REDEFINING HIS DUTIES. HE HAS GIVEN LONG INTERVIEW TO LIBYAN-SUPPORTED BEIRUT PAPER "AL SAFIR", AND PRESS HERE CARRIED FRONT PAGE PHOTOS OF HIS MEETING JULY 22 WITH YASSER ARAFAT, FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED SINCE APRIL. AT SAME TIME, JALLUD'S ROLE IS SOMEWHAT LESS PROMINENT. IN THIS CONNECTION QADHAFI IN THE "AL SAFIR" INTERVIEW MAKES POINT OF CALLING FOR CRITICISM OF THE REVOLUTION AND BLAMES "SOME REVOLUTIONARIES" WHO HAVE ERRED IN NOT ALLOWING IT. THIS MAY BE INDIRECT JAB AT JAULLUD AND OTHERS WHO HAVE ASSUMED BURDEN OF DAY TO DAY DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION IN RECENT MONTHS, AND THUS LEFT THEMSELVES VULNERABLE TO SNIPING. BY TAKING "REVOLUTIONARY", AS OPPOSED TO "POLITICAL" APPROACH SINCE APRIL. QADHAFI HAS MANAGED TO DEFLECT SUCH CRITICISM FROM HIS OWN PERSON, TO CERTAIN EXTENT AT LEAST. THIS COULD CHANGE, HOWEVER, IF REGIME PUSHES HARD TO IMPLEMENT QADHAFI'S DECISIONS ON COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING, ABOUT WHICH THERE IS STILL MUCH CONFUSION AMONG LIBYANS (TRIPOLI 788 NOTAL).

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY POLICIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMUNIQUE, MUTUAL FORCE WITHDRAWALS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TRIPOL00828
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740205-0004
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740711/aaaaajdj.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TRIPOLI 788
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTIAN-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE PROFITS QADHAFI
TAGS: PINT, LY, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR), (QADHAFI, MU'AMMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005